

Virginia Department of Social Services

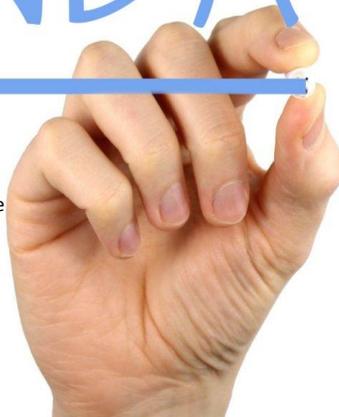
people helping people

Roundtable with Virginia's Tribes

September 14, 2022

AGENDA

- Welcome/Introductions
- Faster Families Highway: Foster Parent Recruitment Initiative Reminder
- ICWA Training Update
- SNAP-Ed Program (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education) – *Elena Serrano and Claudia Jackson*
- Thriving Families, Safer Children: A National Commitment to Well-Being Request for Applications
- Input from November's eBlast
- Updates from Virginia's Tribes
- Other Updates
- Plus/Delta





Present:

Doris Ann Austin, Chickahominy-Eastern Division

Morgan Dean, Upper Mattaponi

Claudia Jackson, VDSS, SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program)

Chief Walt "Red Hawk" Brown, Cheroenhaka (Nottoway)

Elena Serrano, Virginia Family Nutrition Program

Kim Murphy, Children's Bureau

Jen Newman, Court Improvement Program

Wilma Hicks, Upper Mattaponi

Lindsey Johnson, Chickahominy

John Hein, VDSS Local Training and Development

Lori Battin, Court Improvement Program

Chief Mark Custalow, Mattaponi

Olga Symeonoglou, Cultural Heritage Partners

Family Families Highway

Faster Families Highway for Recruitment

the on-ramp

Onramp- gives your agency its own branded recruitment portal- whereby prospective foster families can access and begin completion of the 6 step recruitment portal. Agencies can use the onramp to:

- White Labeled Portal- Add your logo to your portal for continued branding.
- Unique URL to embed on websites and brochures to funnel families onto the Faster Families Highway through your own personalized portal.
- Data- Access aggregated data of families going through your personalized recruitment portal. Track progress of your families.
- Maximize your impact by making sure prospective foster families get where they need to go!

Local offices add links to websites/social media and can set up a more customized recruitment portal.



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Brenda reminded the tribes of the Faster Families Highway: a technological solution to better engage and track perspective foster parents. All of VA's tribes have the opportunity to create an on-ramp if that is something they are interested in. Please let Brenda or Ivey know if they would like a 1:1 meeting to discuss.



Brenda gave an update on the ICWA training that group helped to create: when last checked in August, we had 206 hits in the new Intro to ICWA eLearning. John noted there were 157 completions of the training. And also, we created trivia videos for local department staff which have been a big hit and a great way to engage and educate staff. Chief Brown indicated that it is important to have state recognized tribes voice into ICWA and training and that Cheroenhaka (Nottoway) has their own child welfare laws.

SNAP-ED Program

Elena Serrano, Virginia Family Nutrition Program



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No slides were shown, but Elena Serrano with the Virginia Family Nutrition Program shared about the SNAP-Ed program, which stands for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education. This program focuses on food security, providing culturally appropriate foods, and they have different projects and community partnerships in place. They are currently hiring for a Coordinator of Indigenous Populations. They will send out the job notice to the tribal roundtable leaders. They are interested in hearing about the interests and needs of indigenous populations. Chief Brown noted that in Southampton Co schools, he commended the SNAP program; Claudia gave kudos to Southampton DSS for that collaboration.

Thriving Families Requests for Applications (RFA)

Thriving Families seeks to demonstrate that intentional, coordinated investment in a full continuum of prevention and robust community-based networks of **support will promote overall child and family well-being, equity, and other positive outcomes for children and families**. The partners believe it is time to act on what we know: Community and family support helps keep children safe and well.

IMPORANT DATES FOR THIS RFA

- **RFA release date: Sept. 6, 2022**
- **Information Meeting via Zoom: September 16, 2022**
- **Due Date for Applications: Oct. 28, 2022**
- **Notice of Awards: Dec. 2, 2022**



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Brenda went over the RFA.

What is Thriving Families, Safer Children?

The [first-of-its-kind Thriving Families, Safer Children movement](#), which now includes [child welfare sites in 22 states](#), is supported by Casey Family Programs, Prevent Child Abuse America (PCA America), The Annie E. Casey Foundation, The National Center for Injury Prevention and Control at the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#), and The U.S. Children’s Bureau as an opportunity to create a more just and equitable child and family well-being system.

VDSS is partnering with Families Forward Virginia and seeking RFAs for Family Resource Center Demonstration Sites across Virginia.

For Virginia, this innovative approach will provide **resources and support for five to seven selected jurisdictions, localities, and communities that create, build and collaborate with people who have lived experience, other community organizations, civic groups, and non-traditional service providers** in the development of a Family Resource Center framework that **focuses on advancing primary prevention initiatives**. The Family Resource Center framework provides multiple services to both children and families, increases parenting skills and

protective factors, and reduces the likelihood of formal involvement with child protective services. This helps stabilize families before a crisis reaches a level requiring CPS intervention or a child's placement in out-of-home care.

Ivey will be sending out the RFA information to all of the tribal leaders.

November eBlast Newsletter for Child Welfare Staff

Adoption, ICWA and National Native American Heritage Month



Brenda gave an overview of a statewide newsletter send to all child welfare staff once a month highlighting various topics throughout the year. For November, Adoption and ICWA and National Native American Heritage Month will be highlighted. We would love to highlight our tribes in the November issue. We would need our content by October 20th.



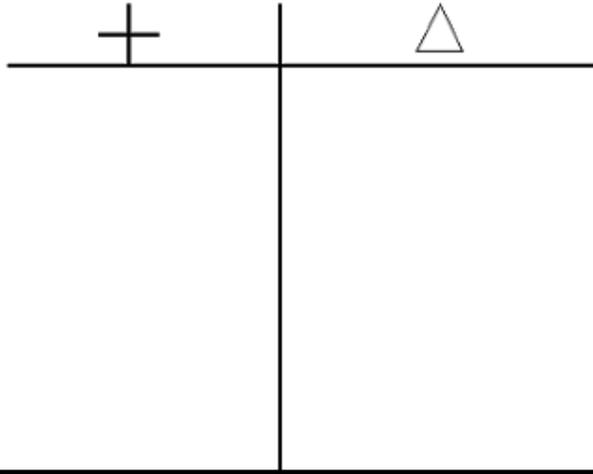
Ivey

Next Meeting: December 14, 11am-12:30pm

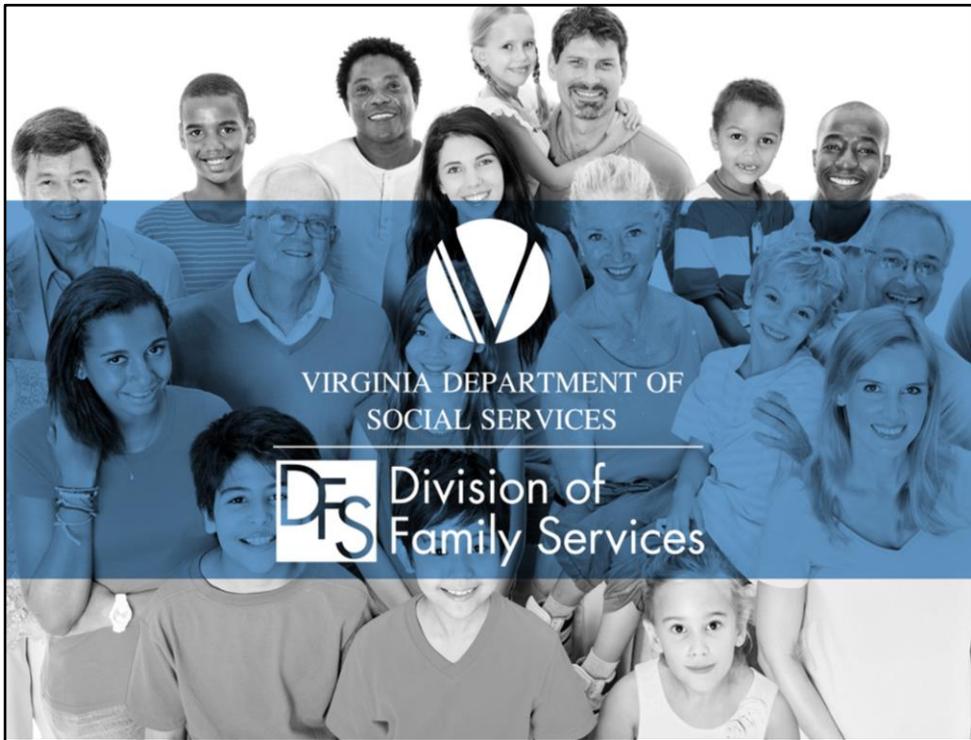


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